

§ 300.27

to each tuna or its parts must be written legibly and indelibly on the outside of any package or container.

(e) *Reuse.* Tags issued under this section are separately numbered and may be used only once, one tail tag per fish, to distinguish the purchase of one Pacific bluefin tuna. Once affixed to a tuna or recorded on any package, container or report, a tail tag and associated number may not be reused.

[61 FR 35550, July 5, 1996, as amended at 64 FR 29133, May 28, 1999]

§ 300.27 Pacific bluefin tuna—Documentation requirements.

Bluefin tuna imported into, or exported or re-exported from the customs territory of the United States is subject to the documentation requirements specified in §§ 635.41 through 635.44 of this title.

[64 FR 29133, May 28, 1999]

§ 300.28 Prohibitions.

In addition to the prohibitions in § 300.4, it is unlawful for any person or vessel subject to the jurisdiction of the United States to:

(a) Land any species of tuna during the closed season for that species in excess of the amount allowed by the Regional Administrator.

(b) Fish on floating objects in the Convention Area using any gear type specified by the Regional Administrator's notification of closure issued under § 300.29.

(c) Use tender vessels in the Convention Area.

(d) Transship purse seine-caught tuna at sea within the Convention Area.

(e) Import Pacific bluefin tuna or purchase or receive for export Pacific bluefin tuna first landed in the United States without a valid dealer permit issued under § 300.24.

(f) Remove any NMFS-issued numbered tag affixed to any Pacific bluefin tuna at the option of any permitted dealer or any tag affixed to a Pacific bluefin tuna to meet the requirements of § 635.42(a)(2) of this title, before removal is allowed under § 300.26, or fail to write the tag number on the shipping package or container as specified in § 300.26.

50 CFR Ch. III (10–1–04 Edition)

(g) Reuse any NMFS-issued numbered tag affixed to a Pacific bluefin tuna at the option of a permitted dealer or any tag affixed to a Pacific bluefin tuna to meet the requirements of § 635.42(a)(2) of this title or reuse any tag number previously written on a shipping package or container as prescribed by § 300.26.

(h) Fail to retain any bigeye, skipjack, or yellowfin tuna brought on board a purse seine vessel in the Convention Area, except fish unfit for human consumption due to spoilage, and except on the last set of the trip if the well capacity is filled;

(i) When using purse seine gear to fish for tuna in the Convention Area, fail to release any non-tuna species as soon as practicable after being identified on board the vessel during the brailing operation;

(j) Land any non-tuna fish species taken in a purse seine set in the Convention Area;

(k) Fail to use the sea turtle handling, release, and resuscitation procedures in § 300.29(e); or

(l) Fail to report information when requested by the Regional Administrator under § 300.21.

[61 FR 35550, July 5, 1996, as amended at 64 FR 29133, May 28, 1999; 64 FR 44430, Aug. 16, 1999; 66 FR 49320, Sept. 27, 2001]

§ 300.29 Eastern Pacific fisheries management.

(a) *Notification of IATTC recommendations.* The Regional Administrator will directly notify owners or agents of U.S. tuna vessels of any fishery management recommendations made by the IATTC and approved by the Department of State that will affect fishing or other activities by U.S. parties with fishery interests in the Convention Area. As soon as practicable after such notification, the Regional Administrator will announce approved IATTC recommendations in the FEDERAL REGISTER.

(b) *Tuna quotas.* (1) Fishing seasons for all tuna species begin on January 1 and end either on December 31 or when NMFS closes the fishery for a specific species.

(2) The Regional Administrator may close the U.S. fishery for yellowfin, bigeye, or skipjack tuna or any other